



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

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New Zealand

Biotechnology

Detection of Genetically Modified Sweet Corn

2006

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Report Highlights:

On Friday, December 1, 2006, the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) announced that its quarantine service had mistakenly cleared 1.8 tons of sweet corn seeds imported from the United States. While the two consignments, which arrived on October 26 and November 7, carried certificates showing negative genetic modification test results, they also carried documentation showing that the parent batch of seeds had tested positive. Most of the imported seeds, which could be used to sow an area of up to 400 hectares, have already been planted in both the North and South Islands. MAF is working with the two companies that imported the seeds to find out where they have been planted. MAF is reportedly also conducting an investigation on how they can increase border security so this does not happen again. Farmers who planted the seeds may be planning to request compensation.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Wellington [NZ1]
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